

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q86945

Masumi HIRATA, et al.

Appln. No.: National Stage Entry of PCT/JP03/12261

Confirmation No.: not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

Filed: March 30, 2005

Examiner: not yet assigned

For: CARBON FIBER AND PROCESS AND COMPOSITION FOR MANUFACTURING A
MAT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

A copy of each of the listed documents, in the ISR should accompany the papers received from the International Bureau. However, applicant will be glad to furnish copies upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
National Stage Entry of PCT/JP03/12261

0/529758
JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 MAR 2005

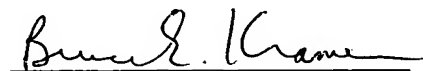
filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP03/12261 dated September 25, 2003), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: March 30, 2005

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <div style="text-align: center;"><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></div> | | | | <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Delete if known</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: large; font-weight: bold;">10/529758</div> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width:50%;">Application Number</td><td style="width:50%;">National Stage Entry of PCT/JP03/12261</td></tr> <tr><td>Confirmation Number</td><td>Not yet assigned</td></tr> <tr><td>Filing Date</td><td>March 30, 2005</td></tr> <tr><td>First Named Inventor</td><td>Masumi HIRATA</td></tr> <tr><td>Art Unit</td><td>Not yet assigned</td></tr> <tr><td>Examiner Name</td><td>Not yet assigned</td></tr> <tr><td>Attorney Docket Number</td><td>Q86945</td></tr> </table> | | Application Number | National Stage Entry of PCT/JP03/12261 | Confirmation Number | Not yet assigned | Filing Date | March 30, 2005 | First Named Inventor | Masumi HIRATA | Art Unit | Not yet assigned | Examiner Name | Not yet assigned | Attorney Docket Number | Q86945 |
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| First Named Inventor | Masumi HIRATA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Art Unit | Not yet assigned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Name | Not yet assigned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q86945 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² <i>(if known)</i> | | |
| | | US 5,100,937 | A | 3/31/1992 | Kubo et al. |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ <i>(if known)</i> | | | |
| | | JP | 62-36465 | A | 2/17/1987 | Unitika Ltd. | |
| | | JP | 3-64525 | A | 3/19/1991 | Toyobo Co., Ltd. | |
| | | JP | 2002-173308 | A | 6/21/2002 | Mitsubishi Chemical Corp. | |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Asao OYA, Naoto KASAHARA, 'Preparation of thin carbon fibers from phenol-formaldehyde polymer micro-beads dispersed in polyethylene matrix', Carbon 2000, Vol. 38, pages 1141 to 1144 | |
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| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.